

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Laddie for his commitment to coaching thousands of athletes, who continue to carry the lessons of determination and fortitude that were instilled in them as runners.

FOUNDATION OF THE FEDERAL
BAR ASSOCIATION CHARTER
AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2017

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5385, the GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2018.

H.R. 5385 amends the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the program of payments to children's hospitals that operate graduate medical education programs.

Americans across our nation need care, and the Children's Hospital GME (CHGME) program has been utilized by hospitals across our country to train doctors who can provide that necessary aid.

I represent the 18th District of Texas which is home to the Methodist Hospital System, one of the largest medical institutions in the world.

H.R. 5385 will allow Houston to continue to recruit and train many talented doctors.

CHGME was created in 1999 because Congress recognized that a dedicated source of support for training in children's hospitals was necessary to strengthen the pediatric workforce.

Since then, CHGME funding has enabled children's hospitals to dramatically increase training overall, and in particular grow the supply of pediatric specialists—the area of greatest shortage in children's health care.

If CHGME is allowed to expire, we will lose the progress we have made in this field.

According to data from a 2017 Children's Hospital Association survey, pediatric specialty shortages continue to affect children's ability to receive timely, appropriate care.

The funds generated from this legislation will help train the medical professionals we desperately need.

In a time when there are growing health disparities within our nation, it is important to address the needs of underserved urban areas.

The more medical professionals we train, the greater the likelihood that these underserved communities will have access to proper medical care.

CHGME funds the training of pediatric providers at eligible children's hospitals.

The 58 children's hospitals that receive CHGME funding train approximately half of the nation's pediatricians, more than 7,000 annually.

We should provide the funds necessary to train students in a profession that will benefit society.

We must train the very professionals who will one day save the life of a child.

I support this legislation because it will increase the quality of medical training in the United States.

I believe that H.R. 5385 improves upon a system that sets the bar for medical care internationally.

By passing H.R. 5385, CHGME can continue to succeed in bolstering research poten-

tial at these institutions as well as helping to cure a problem that supersedes political boundaries: children's illness.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 5385.

RECOGNIZING THE 6TH ANNUAL
TASTE OF ETHIOPIA

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 6th Annual Taste of Ethiopia. This yearly occasion celebrates and recognizes Colorado's Ethiopian immigrant community. The event encompasses an array of Ethiopian music, foods, arts, crafts, games and dances, creating an environment of cultural immersion. The event truly highlights the many wonderful and positive contributions our fellow Americans of Ethiopian descent make to better our community. Best of all, the event is designed to welcome everyone and every year more and more of our neighbors come to enjoy, experience, and learn more about the fascinating and deeply historic Ethiopian culture.

I am proud to represent the largest Ethiopian community in the State of Colorado in the United States House of Representatives. The Ethiopian community's dedication to work, family, and education truly exemplifies the values that strengthen our nation. I have had the privilege of attending the past Taste of Ethiopia events, and it is an honor for me to again take part in the festivities.

I would like to again offer my sincere congratulations to the organizers and volunteers of the Taste of Ethiopia for their dedication to promoting Ethiopian culture in the State of Colorado. Therefore, I include in the RECORD their names:

1. Fikru Ayele.
2. Girum Alemayehu.
3. Nebiyu Asfaw.
4. Bizuayehu Sebsebe.
5. Sofia Belew.
6. Adanech Dembel.
7. Yalemwork Tekola.
8. Senait Ketema.
9. Tilahun Dessie.
10. Selam Ayele.
11. Aynalem Mamo.
12. Helen Tekle.
13. Sossena Dagne.
14. Yohannes Mengistu.
15. Aschalew Agonafer.
16. Mequanent Mekuria.
17. Mahder Mengiste.
18. Admasu Chekole.
19. Elizabeth Moltot.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE USS
"TAPPAHANNOCK"

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the USS *Tappahannock*, a Navy vessel with 34 years of service. On Sunday

July 15th, the USS *Tappahannock* was memorialized in a ceremony on the Courthouse Green in Tappahannock, VA.

The USS *Tappahannock* was vital to the support of U.S. aircraft carriers, battleships, destroyers and other combatants during WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. During WWII, the ship earned six medals and nine battle stars. Additionally her sailors were credited with shooting down a Japanese bomber and rescuing sailors from ships that were sunk by Japanese aircraft. After WWII, the ship was briefly decommissioned before being put back into service for the Korean War and the Vietnam War. The USS *Tappahannock* was finally stricken from the Navy's roles in 1976 after its 34 years of service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring the USS *Tappahannock* for its admirable service to the protection of our Nation.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE FORT
KNOX CENTENNIAL

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fort Knox Centennial. Fort Knox plays a vital role in our national security, and I am extremely proud to represent Fort Knox in Congress.

After serving as a military installation going back to the Civil War, ground was officially broken for the installation we know today as Fort Knox on August 16, 1918. Established as an artillery camp during World War I, Fort Knox was used as an active training center and housed soldiers returning from the war. During World War II, Fort Knox was chosen to be the headquarters of the Armored Force, which trained soldiers in the use of armored vehicles, and remained the Armor headquarters until 2005. Since then, Fort Knox has been the home of a number of commands, including the Human Resources Command, Recruiting Command, and Cadet Command. Famously, Fort Knox is also home to the U.S. Department of Treasury's Bullion Depository. Fort Knox is a leader in military innovation with its award-winning energy conservation program.

Fort Knox is home to the future of our Armed Forces. Here's to the next 100 years.

CONGRATULATING ELIZABETH
WENDE BREAST CARE ON OPEN-
ING ITS NEW LOCATION

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Elizabeth Wende Breast Care on the grand opening of a new site in Carthage, New York.

Elizabeth Wende Breast Care leads the field in breast imaging and breast cancer diagnosis, and is well known for its state-of-the-art 3D mammography technology. In its fight against breast cancer, Elizabeth Wende Breast Care has partnered with Carthage Area Hospital to

bring its high-quality treatment within the reach of thousands of North Country residents by opening a new site in Carthage, New York. Residents will benefit from having Elizabeth Wende Breast Care's services right in their neighborhood.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to congratulate Elizabeth Wende Breast Care on the opening of its new location in Carthage, New York. I look forward to hearing about the assistance they will provide to North Country residents, and I wish them the best of luck in the years to come.

SALUTING THE ROUND ROCK, TX
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I salute my friends and neighbors of the Round Rock, TX Chamber of Commerce who were recently honored as the 2018 Chamber of the Year by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives. The Round Rock Chamber are richly deserving recipients of this prestigious award which recognizes the leadership role chambers have in their communities and excellence in operations and community leadership.

Throughout the years, the Chamber has fostered an unrivaled environment of economic success for the citizens of Round Rock. They've helped to employ over 25,000 Texans with over 10,000 investors supporting the local economy, making the Chamber one of the largest and most active business associations in Central Texas. Their efforts have been a critical part of Texas's strong economy and have been essential to making Round Rock a place where business thrives.

The Chamber continuously works to create economic opportunities for the people of Round Rock. In the past year alone, the Chamber has won \$257 million in capital investment, brought 575 jobs to Round Rock, launched the Entrepreneurship Round Rock program, and increased opportunities for entrepreneurs young and old. When it comes to promoting education, talent development, and quality of life in the Round Rock Community, the Round Rock Chamber never rests.

The positive impacts made by the Chamber are among the many reasons I am proud to call the city of Round Rock my hometown. I celebrate their work and am glad to see them get the national recognition they deserve. I know that for the Chamber, as well as the citizens they're proud to serve, the best is yet to come.

FACEBOOK TRIES TO SILENCE
THOMAS JEFFERSON AND THE
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, history tells us that President Thomas Jefferson had a

love hate relationship with the press. At times Jefferson detested them, but he truly believed a free people required a free press. "The basis of our governments being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right," words spoken by Jefferson to Edward Carrington in 1787. "And were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive those papers and be capable of reading them." Patriots, like Jefferson, secured these rights that folks enjoy today. Just because we may not like what we read, does not mean that it should be silenced.

It's no big surprise to me that the folks over at Facebook don't know the first thing about freedom and rights. Their latest attack, using digital censorship, has stirred up a firestorm. Just in case you haven't heard, the Liberty County *Vindicator*, a newspaper that publishes news for the City of Liberty, Texas and Liberty County, Texas posted the Declaration of Independence in twelve installments leading up to the Fourth of July. Casey Stinnett, managing editor, said that the first nine parts posted as schedule, but part ten, of the historic document did not appear. The Liberty County *Vindicator* received a notice from Facebook saying that the post "goes against our standards on hate speech." I'm a fierce advocate of the First Amendment protecting freedom of speech and press. This is, without a doubt, a flippant disregard and assault on the First Amendment by Facebook.

For over 131 years, the Liberty County *Vindicator* newspaper, has told the story of everyday America. It has documented community history in a way that will forever be available to future generations. Since the newspaper began operations in 1887, it has covered local events, business happenings, politics, tragedies, civic improvements, and so much more. The paper recently followed and covered Liberty High School's Lady Panthers Softball Team who won the Texas UIL State Class 4A Softball Champions. It has also followed wars and has told stories about our young freedom fighters from the area who returned home and some who did not return. It is everything a community newspaper should be. The *Vindicator* has always had its finger on the pulse of folks in Liberty, Texas.

Liberty's rich history of rugged Texas pioneers who settled near the Trinity River spans more than 180 years. Today, Liberty continues to live up to its rich legacy and community spirit of patriotism. One such family epitomizes the spirit of Liberty County—the patriotic Ripkowski brothers. Twelve brothers from Liberty County, Texas served in our military in various branches spanning from World War II to the Korean War. And they all survived the wars and returned to Liberty County, Texas. According to a pentagon spokesperson, there has never been another family with that many sons from the same parents to join the service in American history.

The Ripkowski brothers believed their service in the military was their duty as an American citizen. To them it was not performed for heroics or to gain medals, but to answer the honorable call of duty for their beloved country. Reality is that freedom doesn't come free. It is the United States military that has always been on the front lines to defend the liberties

of all Americans, even the folks over at Facebook.

It is an honor to have represented the citizens of Liberty County in the United States House of Representatives. I commend the *Vindicator* for challenging its readers to read the Declaration of Independence. Freedom of speech and freedom of the press must ever be protected. Thomas Jefferson, who was the primary author of the Declaration of Independence, said, "our liberty depends on the freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost." The Founding Father and the third President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson, undoubtedly believed deeply in the freedom of speech and of the press.

Jefferson must have turned over in his grave when he heard that the Declaration of Independence was censored in America. America's defense of freedom and liberties is a struggle that never ends, and the *Vindicator* should continue to exercise the right to free speech and press, whether those that hate the First Amendment like it or not.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING MR. MIKE PARNESS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Mike Parness upon his retirement from a distinguished 40 year public service career in city management.

Mr. Parness grew up in Livermore, California and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Santa Clara. He continued his education at California State University, Hayward, where he earned a Master of Public Administration.

Mr. Parness worked as a City Administrator in Renton, Washington for eleven years before returning to California to serve as the City Manager for San Clemente for twelve years and later, Walnut Creek for almost five years. Since November of 2006 Mr. Parness has been the City Manager of Napa, California.

During his tenure at the City of Napa, Mr. Parness was a member of the Sunrise Rotary and served on the Board of Directors for the California City Management Foundation and the International City Management Foundation. As City Manager, he oversaw the construction of Fire Stations 4 and 5, the renovation of the Edward I. Barwick Jamieson Canyon Water Treatment Plant, the introduction of Measure T and the launch of the 10-mile Paving Program and Sidewalk Repair and Replacement Program. Mr. Parness played an essential role in the revitalization of downtown Napa, the expansion of public event space at the Oxbow Commons and the city's financial recovery after the Great Recession.

Mr. Parness also facilitated the growth of public areas during his career in Napa with the additions of Trancas Crossing Park, China Point Overlook Park, Third Street Overlook Park, and the renewal of Veterans Park. He is also a wonderful colleague. His quick wit, sense of humor and lively stories are cherished by those who work with him.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Parness is a passionate civil servant with an esteemed record for giving back to our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor Mr. Mike Parness here today.